



DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY  
BUILDING 36, U.S. NAVAL OBSERVATORY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20305

DMAINST 8052.5  
PR, PP  
7 March 1978

DMA INSTRUCTION 8052.5

SUBJECT: DoD Weather Plotting Charts and Catalog

REF: a. DoD Directive 5105.40, "Defense Mapping Agency (DMA)".  
b. Joint Staff Memorandum MJCS-280-73, "DoD Weather Plotting Charts," 23 August 1973.

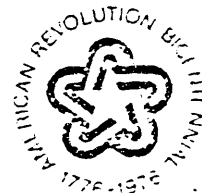
1. Purpose. This instruction defines responsibilities and procedures for the determination of requirements, format, production, and distribution of Weather Plotting Charts (WPC) and the supporting Catalog of Weather Plotting Charts.

2. Applicability. This instruction applies to all DoD organizations which have an interest in or responsibility for requirements, design, production, and distribution of Weather Plotting Charts and the supporting Catalog.

3. General. Weather Plotting Charts are non-navigational products used exclusively by the weather agencies within the Military Services for plotting, analysis, and prognosis of weather systems. Prior to the formation of DMA, the JCS management authority for these charts was the HQ Air Weather Service (AWS), USAF. Reference b. recognizes that the Director, DMA, now has the responsibility for the validation of requests for new WPC, major revisions or deletions of existing charts and specifies that these requests should be processed in accordance with DMA and Service policies for mapping, charting, and geodesy products. In order to assure continued responsiveness to the primary users of WPC products, this instruction formalizes existing procedures which provide for technical liaison between HQ AWS and weather agencies within the Departments and Commands on WPC requirements prior to DMA validation.

4. Description.

a. Weather Plotting Charts depict the location and identification of meteorological observing stations, and portray latitude, longitude, geographic or natural boundaries. Only minimum topographic and sounding information is shown. Certain of the charts are produced on continuous roll sprocketed paper for computer generated weather forecasting, while other charts contain a unique grid for automatic plotting of weather data. Also included in the WPC Program are special upper-air computation and pseudoadiabatic diagrams and plastic scales which are required for phases of weather forecasting and weather briefing.



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b. The Catalog of Weather Plotting Charts provides indexes of all WPC charts, scales, and diagrams.

## 5. Definitions.

a. Major modification - substantive changes to an existing WPC such as alteration of geographic coverage, scale, projection, size, or topographic features portrayed.

b. Minor modification - changes to an existing WPC relating to portrayal of weather station data; e.g., location, international index number, call letters, station symbolization, and other rapidly changing details of this nature.

c. New charts - new Weather Plotting Charts, diagrams and/or plastic scales required to satisfy changing meteorological requirements and related weather forecasting and plotting techniques.

## 6. Responsibilities and Procedures.

a. Headquarters, Defense Mapping Agency (DMA), is responsible for:

(1) Approving requests for new WPC, major modifications to existing charts, and changes to WPC specifications.

(2) Integrating and priority ranking WPC requirements with other mapping, charting, and geodetic requirements.

(3) Distributing the Catalog of Weather Plotting Charts through the DMA Automated Distribution Management System.

b. Headquarters, Air Weather Service (AWS), USAF, is responsible for:

(1) Approving and forwarding directly to the DMA Aerospace Center (DMAAC/PR) the Military Services' area requirements, automatic distribution schedules, and requests for minor modifications to existing WPC.

(2) Assisting Military Services in preparation of requests for new WPC, major modifications to existing charts, and specification changes.

(3) Submitting to DMAAC/PR requests for new WPC, specification changes, and major modifications to existing charts for technical coordination prior to final submission to HQ DMA/PR for approval.

(4) Submitting to DMAAC/PR, as required, routine supplements and proposed deletions to the Catalog of Weather Plotting Charts.

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## c. Military Services are responsible for:

- (1) Forwarding to HQ AWS/DOU requests for new WPC, specification changes, and major modifications to existing charts for technical coordination and submission to HQ DMA through DMAAC.
- (2) Forwarding to HQ AWS area requirements, WPC distribution requirements, and requests for minor modifications to existing charts.
- (3) Submitting to DMAAC/PDD requisitions for any WPC required in addition to those received through automatic distribution.
- (4) Requisitioning Catalog of Weather Plotting Charts directly from the DMA Distribution Control Point (DDCP), DMA Topographic Center (DMATC).

## d. DMAAC is responsible for:

- (1) Producing and distributing the WPC according to distribution lists provided by HQ AWS.
- (2) Forwarding to HQ DMA/PR for approval any requests for new WPC, major modifications to existing charts and changes to the WPC specifications.
- (3) Accomplishing minor modifications to the WPC program after they have been reviewed by HQ AWS.

7. Effective Date. This instruction is effective upon publication.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

*Thomas P. Baker, Jr.*

THOMAS P. BAKER, JR.  
Colonel, USAF  
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION B+

DISTRIBUTION: 3

Plus:

HQ DA (DAMI-ZX)	5
HQ DA (DAMI-TST)	5
USN (NOP-09B)	10
(NOP-095)	5
NAVOCEANMET	3
OCEANAV	5
HQ USMC	5
HQ USAF (DA)	10
HQ USAF (ISINTB)	5
HQ USAF (XOOSR)	5
Air University (AUL3T-63-720)	1
National Guard Bureau	5
DIA	5
Military Agency for Standardization	5
Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff (JLE)	1
CINCLANT (J37A)	14
CINCAD	10
USCINCEUR	25
CINCPAC	25
USCINCSO	25
USCINCRD	25
CINCSAC/INTM	8
CINCMAC	5
CIA (AC/DCI)	2
Department of State (INR/M)	10
NSA	5
USCG	2